INDIANA BOARD OF FIREFIGHTING

PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION MEETING

MINUTES

March 18, 213 6pm WAYNE TWP FD 700 N HIGH SCHOOL RD INDPLS IN 46214 317-247-8501

- A MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 6:05 pm
- B. ROLL CALL

Present

Jeff Hayes, Chairman
Jack Kerney, Vice-chair
Candice Ashby, Secretary
Greg Wyant
Burke Jones
Mike Garvey
James Greeson

Absent

Tom Hanify

C. APPROVAL OF February 4th, 2013 minutes as submitted.

Greg Wyant made a motion to approve. Burke Jones seconded. Motion passed.

D. CERTIFICATIONS REPORT, John Buckman

There has been a big drop in certifications over the last several years. We have issued 101823 certifications over the last 10 years, but in the last 3 years, the numbers have dropped. We believe that once we separate the instructor II/III, that certifications will go back up.

E VARIANCE REQUESTS

1. Aaron Floor requested variances for Fire Investigator and Instructor I based on fire science degree classes at Southwest Michigan College.

Staff recommendation is denial. There is no record of skills being completed and the class description is for the basic levels.

Candace Ashby made a motion to approve the Instructor I pending passing the instructor reciprocity test, and deny the investigator. The instructor information submitted, covers what would be in instructor I but the investigator states that it teaches you recognize when a more advanced investigation is needed. Burke Jones seconded. Motion passed.

Discussion: in the future, staff will no longer pull the information required. This is the individual's responsibility to supply the information required for the board to consider.

2. Benjamin Renz requested variances for instructor II/III based on his Law Enforcement Instructor.

Staff recommends approval based on the information submitted.

Candace Ashby made a motion to table the request. She would like to see more information on the ILEA course to see if it meets the standard. Jack Kerney seconded the motion. Motion passed.

3. Elizabeth Westfall requested a variance for instructor II/III based on her current PI.

Staff recommends denial. The Primary Instructor course does not meet the requirements of NFPA.

Candace Ashby made a motion to deny. The PI course does not meet the standard for Instructor II/III. Burke Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed. Discussion was that once the Instructor II/III is separated in the new rules, Elizabeth would be eligible to reapply for Instructor II, based on her PI course.

4. Marty McCrindle requested a variance for the live burn portion of Firefighter I/II skills. The state has denied use of the live burn trailer for individuals not 18 years of age. The Elkhart Area Career Center is unable to do this skill because we do not have the facilities to complete them. I am asking that the students not be required to do this skill.

John Buckman recommends denial. The State is not responsible for providing live burn facilities to be used by career centers or local FD's. OSHA declares that interior structural firefighting for persons under the age of 18 is determined to be unsafe. Expecting that IDHS or the State Firefighter Training System would knowingly provide a training prop to be used by persons under the age of 18 would place us in violation. If 17 year olds do not have to successfully complete this skill, they are not complying with the NFPA standard as required per Board rules. Allowing any person to become certified when they are publicly declaring they are not completing all of the skills will open the door for many other applicants for certification to request the same variance or additional variances simply they can't access the props or equipment.

James Greeson made a motion to deny. Candace Ashby seconded. Motion passed.

Discussion: it is not the states responsibility to supply the location/equipment for course skills. Other career schools are affiliated with Fire Departments and the students get the live burn skills through them. Also, the board cannot grant a blanket variance, names of the students would need to be submitted. We have 4 new career schools opening and this is an issue that we need to look at.

5. Trevor Gallaway requested a variance for the 180 day requirement for skills. He states that due to multiple issues, he has not been able to complete the written exam and would like an extension on the skills.

Staff recommends denial. He cannot locate paperwork that shows he has completed the skills or when. The lead evaluator has not produced a copy of the skills.

Candace Ashby made a motion to deny. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed.

6. Dennis Scott Zelhart requested a variance for Driver Operator Mobile Water Supply under reciprocity for equivalent training. Charles Fadale has submitted a letter explaining that he acted as evaluator for the skills that were done on February 15th. 2013. Capt. Zelhart completed a written exam of 35 questions and passed the skills.

John Buckman recommendation is approval based upon the new information.

The board stated at the February meeting that:

"Candace Ashby made a motion to deny the request based on self testing when there is a written/practical skill test in place. I also think that Mr. Zelhart should be commended for the work he put into this. I also believe

that he should have no problem passing the written/practical testing. Mike Garvey seconded the motion. Motion to deny passed.

Jeff Hayes asked the staff if Brandon Wood would be willing to go to Fishers to help put this group through the skills. "

Charles Fadale evaluated the skills and he does not hold the certification and the test. They have also submitted training records for Mr. Zelhart.

Capt. Zelhart is also requesting a variance to be able to teach/ be lead evaluator for this certification.

Candace Ashby made a motion to approve. He completed the written and practical skills and Charlie Fadale attested to this. Greg Wyant seconded. Motion passed.

Greg Wyant explained that this was a jam that we got into in several ways. This was an unfortunate set circumstance.

John Buckman explained that this was a lesson learned for us. We met with Rope ops and tech and I told them that they would not get anything by doing this work. It does not count as written/practical skills by being on the committee.

Scott Zelhart explained that he had a lot of formal education. I got sought out for this because he had developed a program on his own. As long as the expectations clearly defined in the front, then this should not happen again. We need to some planning to these problems and that would fix the issue. Candace explained the issue that came up, is with a brand new certification, how you get qualified people to do the skills and teach it. Tonight we did the first step by saying that Fishers FD does not have a certified Mobile Water Supply so we have to start somewhere. This is what needs to be brought to the Board in the future and let the Board decide who was eligible to teach or evaluate the skills.

Scott Zelhart explained that he created the written exam questions and he created the skills that are being used.

John Buckman explained that everything should be out in the open, what the state expects and what the individual expects in return for doing this type of thing.

F. REQUEST FOR RECIPROCITY.

No request at this time.

G. REQUEST FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL

1. Dennis Musgrave is appealing the Board's decision on denying his variance for Fire Officer III and Fire Officer IV based on college degrees.

Jack Kerney made a motion to grant the appeal and submit to Judge Bippus. Burke Jones seconded. Motion passed.

H. STATE FIRE MARSHAL, James Greeson

I was reappointed on March 7th as State Fire Marshal and I want to thank everyone listening for their support. We completed the last of 3 seminars last Saturday, a lot of information was shared, and IFCA will have more seminars in the fall. Let us know if there is something you want to know about or trained on.

We have had 30 fire deaths so far this year all due to no smoke alarms or non working smoke alarms. Pam Bright will help you develop programs for fire safety, just contact this office. We would like to help you anyway we can, just call the office.

I. HOMELAND SECURITY CHIEF OF STAFF Mike Garvey.

HS1325- Backfill bill- passed the house. Allow the Homeland security to use the state relief fund will pay to backfill cost if members become a deployed mobile support team.

SB242, Marc 26th hearing, small amount of money not used for arson training to be released, and would allow board to adopt specific standards in a modified emergency rule making.

SB 243 allows agency to deny request for emergency contact and home phone and address for EMS personnel and firefighter. Right now under the public records law, this information is the public right to know, and this bill will stop this.

HB1006 under battery on a responder or battery with bodily waste is a felony, Senator Young agreed to put fire/EMS back in and penalty would be enhanced.

Future of Firefighter training, Gov Pence has included funding for a study to see if a training academy is needed.

Exercises: Sept 22 - 27, at MUTC complex. The districts included in this one are 3, 5 and 9.

Cap stone 2014- regional earthquake exercise. In the fall of 2014; 9 states will participate in this exercise. OH, MI and MN will be support states also involved.

This is National Flood Awareness Week. We are heading into the season, and flooding is one of the biggest disasters in the state.

We are developing the next step in the fire academy. If this is a brick and mortar building, or another avenue, we need input on this issue. Money has been set aside for this study.

- J. STATE FIRE TRAINING DIRECTOR John Buckman.
 - Online application
 It up and working, we are still working the bugs out on this. The student needs to complete this application prior to taking the on-line test.
 - Online PSID application
 Is up and running. We no longer accept the paper requests.
 - Online Lead Evaluator application
 We have had several lead evaluators use this and so far they love it. Staff
 loves this. It is a one step process that is sent to us and we no longer have
 to wait on paperwork to get to us.
 - Online testing
 These are also up and running. If you are requesting less than 5 tests, we are asking you to do on-line testing. It is costing us around \$12 one way to send these tests and this is not cost effective. We have had a few issues, there is a message that comes up and the student just needs to

sign off and then back on and the test will pick up where you left off.

- Application process
 Applications must be completed prior to taking the test and the lead evaluator application must be submitted prior to testing.
- We had on-line testing 3 times in different locations, and even with the glitch, everyone loved it.
- We have one issue and we contact the state and they let me talk to the IOT person, and it was fixed immediately
 We have spent \$21,000 for postage just this year. On line testing will stop a lot of that cost.

I handed out a couple of papers when you came into the room. Instructor I playbook, this is the result of a few of the classes that we observed. Instructors are not planning ahead for these courses. They have no syllabus, no idea who the instructors are going to be, no plans on teaching board rules. This is an attempt to create guidelines for the expectations of what should be in a course. This is not just for instructor courses but all courses being put on it. We have a sample syllabus that was created by Vigo county fire academy for a Firefighter ½. The instructor laid down the rules, ie you cannot miss more than 3 days of total

class, and you must pass all chapter quizzes. This is a sample, the individual facility sets the rules that they want followed.

In instructor I, you do not have to do a live burn, but if the instructor is teaching a Firefighter ½, you need to teach it, so we included the permits you need and who to contact for those permits.

Audits, we are doing audits at the beginning of the classes. We call every instructor and talk to him to see what he is doing. I am asking for a copy of their syllabus, where skills are being done.

• Modular testing / adding HMO to module 2 Module 2 was shorter than the other modules and we want to include hazmat operations in here. This is a requirement from OSHA for firefighters to hold this level of training. OSHA 1910.120 states that anyone that responded to calls ahs to be hazmat ops trained. We are adding about 24 hours to this course. We are not adding this to the Firefighter ½ courses at this time, just the modules. We will be putting test

questions on the module test to cover this.

Jeff Hayes asked about the Tech rescue in the modules. He believes that this is adding to much time to the module. David explained that the law said you have to have special hazard training, so it is in the module. Mara Snyder stated that the Indiana 36-8.10.5-7 does not say special hazards. Basic recognition of special hazards is listed.

Hazmat Awareness is the basic recognition of special hazards. We do to have a curriculum for this, but Tech Rescue Awareness covers this.

Jeff Hayes asked for a better clarification on the tech rescue side of this. I would like to put a hold on this until the next meeting. I think we need to discuss this more and a better explanation for this. This adds 16 hours to the curriculum. This consists of the 7 rescue disciplines. Each employer has to provide awareness level.

Jeff Hayes asked to postpone this until more discussion. This is adding 16 hours to the course and this needs to be looked at closer.

The way the modules are set up, you would get mandatory after you complete module 2. The fire chief makes the decision if an individual can respond to a scene. You do not have to be certified, just trained and it is the fire chief decision as to if you completed this training or not.

Candace Ashby made a motion to approve the addition of Hazmat awareness and operations to the module. Mike Garvey seconded. Motion passed.

K. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS, Judge Bippus

No report at this time.

L. OLD BUSINESS

Greg Wyant explained that he was on a committee that was looking into a format for filing for a variance. This would be a point system, so that you get so many points for years of service in the field you are asking for, college education in the field you are asking for, etc. We are just now starting on this and we will have something to submit to the board in the next few months. We are trying to make this consistent across the board, and it would not rely on who is on the board at that particular meeting. Everyone has to have a certain amount of points, and that would determine if you were granted the certification, or the individual would have to take the written or practical testing. The Board wants to be consistent in this.

M. NEW BUSINESS

No report at this time.

N. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:25pm

NEXT MEETING:

April 29, 2013 6pm Ft Wayne Training Facility 7602 Patriot Crossing Ft Wayne IN 46816 260-439-8200